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CONTENTS.

Editorial Notes	273
Leading Article:	
Elevation of the Panchamas—II	276
Other Articles:	
Our Municipalities By 'Workman'	277
Our London Letter	278
Topics From Periodicals:	
Writing For The Press	280
Selection:	
History of Shivaji, 1671—74	281
Advertisements:	283—288

We may be permitted to state that the views of our contributors and correspondents do not necessarily reflect the policy of the Wednesday Review.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The outstanding news of the week is the presentation of the Peace Treaty to the German delegates. It is a portentous document and it is not possible to give a detailed review of it here. Perhaps, if it was the treaty proper it would not run into this length. As it is, the treaty is somewhat in the nature of a dissertation on the possibilities of a League of Nations. If the Peace Conference had addressed itself solely to the conclusion of a peace with Germany it would have ended its labours long ago. It is the inviting goal of a League of Nations by which all war among the human creation is to be at an end, as soon a League is formed, that has prolonged the labours of the Conference, and the treaty, therefore, is long in proportion to the time taken by the Conference in arriving at its decisions on the League and also on what should be done with Germany in giving effect to the League of Nations' idea. We take no delight in belittling so grand a conception of human virtue, but we cannot hlep saying that the Peace Conference has been deliberating so long with one eye on the moon and the other on the earth. That is why we have a mosaic in which a recital of German atrocities and the penalties to be imposed on the Germans for their wantonness and the duties of a League of Nations are interwoven in such delightful confusion. But what matters to the lesser mortals who cannot rise up to a conception of universal love and brotherhood is the ending of the war with Germany and how the Treaty is to be enforced on her. For our purpose Section 14 is about the most important as it contains guarantees for the execution of the Treaty. It is laid down that the Allied and associated troops will occupy German territory to the west of the Rhine together with bridge-heads for fifteen years, but if Germany would faithfully carry out the conditions the Allies undertake to evacuate certain districts including the bridge-head of Cologne at the end of five years. And at the end of ten years other districts will be evacuated. On the other hand if Germany fails to meet her obligations fairly and squarely the Allied army will occupy certain specified areas immediately. Equally important is the process laid down for the disarmament of Germany and the opening of the Kiel Canal to all the Powers, which would mean that Germany cannot be strengthening herself on the sly and prepare for another world-war. Strict guarantees are to be exacted of Germany for the up-keep of the treaty terms and as there will be no option for Germany in the matter she will have to accept the Treaty as it is.

The contigency is altogether remote of Germany higgling over peace terms in the event of their not being acceptable to her and the war being resumed. The armistice conditions are such that the resumption of war by Germany has been made impossible and the German delegates will have to accept the terms insisted upon by the Allies.

Under the Treaty Germany makes over all her Oversea possessions to the Allies, some of them to be under the control of particular Powers to be governed under mandate from the League of Nations. That is to say they will be governed as a trust of the League and no Power will be allowed to claim them as its own. Some other of these territories are to pass exclusively into the hands of certain Powers, German East African Colonies falling to the share of the British. Now when assignments are being made, may we remind the Allies or the League of Nations that is to be, of a proposal which found wide support in the United Kingdom, that German East Africa must be made an Indian colony and converted into something like a British protectorate which would be administered almost solely by the Indians? If that idea is realised it will be some compensation for the injustice of sorts to which Indians hitherto have been subject in Africa. If the British Government cannot prevail upon the South African Governments to admit Indians as equal partners in the development of the country they may at least hand over German East Africa to Indian administration, of course under the supervision of the Colonial Office or a British High Commissioner on the spot. The experiment is worth a trial and it will be a kind of receognition by the Imperial Government of the services of Indians in the war to which they have made grateful references at every conceivable opportunity. A like experiment may be tried in Mesopotomia also which will afford good scope for it. Some such concessions will be a better proof of the British appreciation of the Indian services in the war than enthusiastic speeches in Parliament or on the platform.

The Afghan situation is well in hand and the success of the British arms on the frontier is practically assured. The British troops have had an easy walk-over so far and this fact must more than confirm the suspicion that the Amir's little adventure has been to divert the attention of the army and his subjects generally from him. He has literally waded to his throne through slaughter and it is not likely that he would be permitted to enjoy the usurpation for any length of time. If he had calculated upon the chances of the Punjaub riots proving auspicious to him for his unprovoked war against the British he would have found out his mistake by now. Thanks to the stern measures adopted by the Punjaub authorities there is nothing untoward in the situation there and the Afghan Chieftain will find little or no material in the Punjaub to work upon for his sinister purposes. Reports from there go to show that the little adventure of the Amir will be shortlived and it requires no great insight into Afghan temperament to predict that the result of his misdirected warfare will recoil against himself and an exasperated population will seek to revenge for the murder of the late Amir.

It is good news that the diarchy recommended in the joint-report which seems to be a special favourite with Mr. Montagu and Lord Chelmsford will be dropped. It is understood that the Local Governments are as a body opposed to the proposal and we dare say that except the place-hunters who may be counting upon the chances of their being installed as Ministers under the Montagu-Chelmsford dispensation no disappointment will be caused to any one by throwing overboard a proposal which if incoporated in it will wreck the whole scheme of reform. In their anxiety not to criticise too closely the scheme the supporters of it, official and other, have not paused to consider the enormous risk involved in setting up a dual executive. The idea of transferring certain subjects to be administered by the Ministers chosen from the elected members of the Legislative Councils is distinctly uncomplimentary to Indian intellect and capacity. Under the existing system the Indian Member of the Executive Council is considered fit to deal with any subject and there is no rule to say that he shall handle only the Municipal or Educational portfolio. At any rate, under the statute he is not excluded from any part of the administration and the portfolio system is adopted only to facitiate the work of the several departments. But under the Montagu-Chelmsford scheme the Indian will be considered to be fit to administer only certain subjects and not others. That does not strike one as an improvement on the existing system. What is worse, the safeguards and checks are so many that there are greater chances of deadlocks occurring in the administration of what are called the transferred subjects than the government being carried on smoothly and in a spirit of conciliation. The London Correspondent of the Calcutta *Statesman* thinks that an alternative to the diarchy has been submitted, by the Southborough Committees we think, whereby a system would be maintained quite consistent with the application of the principles laid down in the declaration of the 20th August 1917. This is not clear however. We cannot pronounce any opinion on this alternative unless we have a detailed description of it. We dare say when the diarchy was adumbrated by the authors of the joint report they did not forget the principles laid down in that declaration.

The safeguards and checks have been devised by them against the possible vagaries of the Minister that is to be, we suppose in consonance with the principles of the declaration. That at any rate will be the contention of Mr. Montagu and Lord Chelmsford who are unlikely to throw up their pet proposal without a hard struggle for it. On a number of occasions they have vigorously defended it as perhaps the best of the proposals contained in their report, while as a matter of fact it is the least sensible of them all.

In this connection we might refer to the opinion of Sir H. L. Stephen, late Judge of the Calcutta High Court. He says:—In the first place the Executive Government, that is the Governor, the Councillors and the Ministers, must all act as one body. A Government whose members are avowedly opposed to one another means chaos everywhere, and nowhere is a united Government more necessary than in India, But Councillers will decide Reserved Subjects and Ministers Transferred Subjects. They will consider them together, and may, to the knowledge of all the world, oppose one another with all the whole-heartedness that Indians can develop on such occasions, which is a great deal. But when they face the Legislative Council they will loyally support one another, and either the Councillors or Ministers will cordially support a measure to which it is known that after careful deliberation they are hopelessly antagonistic. This seems a state of things that is not likely either to lead to good administration or to afford a good education in the art of Parliamentary Government to the ignorant and helpless people who are as unaccustomed to it as they are unfit to use it." Sir H. L. Stephen has written with a practical knowledge of Indian conditions and his opinion must carry some weight with those who will have to do the sifting of the details, of the Montagu-Chelmsford scheme. Another objection still more serious is that if the choice of Ministers is to be confined according to the joint report to the elected members of the Legislative Councils the chances are that the selection will go to the least desirable section of Mr. Montagu's intelligentsia. With an illiterate electorate who will be absolute strangers to the exercise of the vote it is not difficult to predict that it is only the most vociferous of the agitators that will get into the Council and the choice must perforce lie among them. It is a contingency which will be inevitable if the diarchy is to be retained and every effort should be put forth to avoid it and the only way of avoiding it is to drop it altogether.

According to Home Rule papers Col. Wedgwood is an English Radical par excellence and as such the warmest friend of India. It must therefore be a disagreeable surprise to them to know that their friend wanted an assurance the other day from Mr. Churchill in the House of Commons that in the event of a difference of opinion on a subject between American and Japanese troops British troops would co-operate with Americans and not with the Japanees. It meant in effect an assurance that right or wrong the British troops must co-operate with American troops. It was rather a poser to his colleagues in the House and when pressed for an explanation Col. Wedgwood said that British troops should co-operate with Americans because they are white men. Coming from so radical a Member of Parliament it must be an eye-opener to those who fondly imagine that with their radical friends in England blood is not thicker than water. Judging from this remark of his we cannot see how Col. Wedgwood is to be appraised higher than the writer in the *Saturday Review* whose sole ground of opposition to Sir S. P. Sinha's elevation to the peerage was that he is not white. On so glaring an exhibition of racial prejudice the Congress organ *India* is constrained to say that to demand as Col. Wedgwood did that whether right or wrong white should co-operate with white solely on grounds of race or colour is to support a monstrous doctrine.

The following is from E. T. Raymond's "Uncensored Celebrities":—But vigour is just the quality Mr. Chamberlain lacks, though he tries hard to imitate the masterfulness of his father. I once had the singular experience of visiting the house of a rich man with a gruesome hobby. He had spent his life going round the great picture galleries of the world and employing copyists to reproduce their chief treasures. These he put in gorgeous imitations of old Florentine frames, and at a cost adequate to papering his walls with minor masterpieces, was able to flatter himself that he was surrounded by the highest in art. I am reminded of that disconsolate collection of sham Titians, Rembrandts, and Raphaels, stiff and smooth as anything at Madame Tussaud's, whenever I happen to be at the House of Commons when Mr. Chamberlain is "up." He is so like, yet so unlike, his father. The outlines are there, as in Signor Spaghetti's copies, but there is no vigour of colour, no force of expression, no power in modelling. All is flat and tame. Joseph Chamberlain's words cut like a whip; his anger had sometimes almost the effect of physical shock; his monocle could be as terrifying as the eye of Polyphemus. Mr. Austen's is no more formidable than Mr. Weedon Grossmith's. The elder man penetrated his utterances with real passion. The younger tries to do the same, but his artificial indignation rather recalls the dog that went mad "to serve some private ends." Men easily recover from that sort of bite. In middle age, Mr. Austen Chamberlain has to some extent dropped conscious imitation, and he is getting to be as much himself as he will ever be.

THE
Wednesday Review

WEDNESDAY, 14 MAY, 1919.

ELEVATION OF THE PANCHAMAS—II.

LAST week we dwelt briefly on the need of lifting the panchamas out of their present miserable surroundings and providing them with decent house accommodation as a first step to the betterment of their condition. We also suggested that they might be given plots of land to assure them a living. The next step is to give them facilities to acquire at least the rudiments of knowledge. The Madras Government have just issued an order on the subject of panchama education and it deserves a detailed examination. The spirit of the order is admirable and there will be general agreement with it. But we doubt if the suggestions for giving effect to the order are practicable and will answer the purpose. We do not minimise the disabilities under which the panchama children are labouring as to education and if arrangements can be made to give them the necessary facilities no one will grudge the requisite outlay. But it is one thing to provide for their education on the lines of least resistance so to say, and quite another to create, of course unwittingly, the greatest amount of friction in making the provision. We cannot help pointing out that the regulations which are now to be imposed on schools which are receiving grants-in-aid are likely to create unnecessary friction and prove a source of misunderstanding among the different coummunities who send their children to the schools. It is certainly not an encouraging fact that out of 8,157 schools under public management in the Madras Presidency only 609 schools are open to the panchamas. As the Government say in their order it is impossible to defend or justify the state of affairs under which in spite of a heavy and increasing expenditure from public funds a large section of the population is practically excluded from participation in the benefits which that expenditure is expected to confer. A remedy is to be sought for this state of affairs, but it is open to doubt if the present order will smoothen things. We do not agree with the Government in thinking that it is not possible to open special schools for the panchama children who live in scattered localities. It may be that it will involve a heavy cost, but it is not impossible. If the opening of special schools which by the way have not as yet been found difficult to start and which have very well succeeded is to be considered impossible, the only alternative will be to throw open the ordinary schools for panchama boys as well. The Government have laid down that where a school under public management is situated in an agraharam, chavadi or temple or other area from which panchama children are excluded, steps should be taken to transfer the school to some locality to which all classes of the population have access; in cases where the private owner of a rented school building objects to panchama children being admitted into it, steps should be taken to secure for the school some other building in respect of which this objection could not be raised; no school building should hereafter be constructed out of public funds unless it is certified that it is in a locality accessible to all classes including panchamas. If these regulations should be enforced the immediate result will be that caste children would be withdrawn from the schools. Such a contingency will not be to the detriment of the panchamas but from the standpoint of education will it be welcome? Surely, the Government do not think that by educating the panchamas and in that measure putting difficulties in the way of other castes receiving education the progress of education will be accelerated. The removal of a school from quarters inhabited by caste Hindus to places to which the panchamas will have free access may bring in more panchama children but it will drive out every Brahmin-child. Probably non-Brahmin caste children may not be withdrawn from the school, because many of the lower castes do not mind the proximity of the panchamas though they look upon them as untouchables. If the Government are anxious to promote panchama education and at the same time maintain the progress in education among other communities we are afraid the regulations now framed will not be of much help to them there. After all the Government themselves realise that in regard to some of the influences which they have enumerated in their order as operating prejudicially to the panchamas the extent to which the Government or local bodies can effectively intervene is limited, and they hope that with the active help of local bodies and of the enlightened sections of the community these prejudices will gradually be overcome. But at the same time they have laid down rules which they expect can be enforced all at once to remove the prejudices. Let us not be understood as condoning in any way the theory of untouchability which is entertained by the higher castes against the panchamas or any of those prejudices which seek to exclude them from the benefits to which the higher castes have freer access. It is certainly an unjustifiable prejudice on the part of the Brahmin to imagine that he will be polluted if he comes within a certain distance of the panchama. But the prejudice is there and it has grown with the centuries and it cannot be eradicated by a G. O.

OUR MUNICIPALITIES.

By 'WORKMAN'.

From time to time we are reminded of the differences between the Ideal and the Real in what we hope for and what we get under our systems of co-operative union.

The Ideal points to such systems, as working with the accuracy, efficiency and economy of a well-designed piece of machinery, merely requiring the individual to hitch on, and the machine will do the rest.

But the human machine evidently differs from the purely mechanical, in that, we can count on the latter for a certain out-turn of work, and each part taking up the stresses. And we know perfectly well that humanity with all its intelligence will shirk effort and responsibility, unless the individual is under observation, and is paid for the quantity and quality of the work he turns out and nothing more.

How to arrange for this is the ever present problem in work management, and is especially interesting to the public being served by corporations and municipalities.

Corporations generally are entrusted with special jobs, and it is possible to measure the work done but the work of municipalities consists of many items and odd jobs; and with a strictly limited budget there is no end to the demands made on it in every direction, all of which can never be satisfied.

Then who determines the policy and the outlay?

Whoever is authorised to do this, whether it be an individual or a committee by vote,—the first essential is, to get accurate information of the various claims to consideration put forward by parishioners, the amount of taxes they contribute, and the cost of the work they propose; and finally, in what respect the expenditure might benefit the parish as a whole, compared with the proposals of other parties, and neighbouring parishes interested in the common purposes of roads, drainages, &c.

If this fairly represents the responsibility of financial authorities and work managers, we may well sympathise with the officials undertaking them in their efforts to make everybody happy under circumstances mainly or entirely beyond their control!

But if we wish to go a step farther, it is not difficult to see, that the information on which the central authorities are likely to base their calculations with most beneficial results to the mass, is that which might reach them through the local residents of all the castes, on the authority of their accredited leaders.

In the bureaucratic system the central authority does this through the officials in charge of the local administrative offices, whether associated with councils or committees, or not.

It is impossible to work except through the offices and responsible officials in charge of them. The next thing to be considered is the discretionary powers the officials are expected to exercise. In our municipalities the tug is between the executive officials and the committees or the individual councillors.

There are few businesses that are not conducted on the basis of good faith in the persons concerned in them.

A man's title to a place in the co-operative system is simply the amount of confidence in his loyalty and ability for work that he generally instils. This is his capital; on the preservation of which from impurity and dirt his whole character and success in life depends. It is the element differentiating caste, and its value in the great Co-operation of peoples, for conducting their work and government.

Education may improve all castes, but its value depends on the use made of it. To be practical a manager or Ruler must have the wisdom of the four great castes. The Sudra produces from the soil. The Vaisya or trader distributes the products. The Priesthood regulates conduct and the morals. The Military defends the State from attacks from without or within.

The mentality in the ruler that can balance the claims of all these powers at their best condition of working efficiency and economy of life and effort,—in a world that itself is showing and hustling in every direction,—is evidently one that is not only eminently well versed in practical work and good cooperative methods, but is also dominated by the spirit of Divinity within, the halo of which is apparent in the Light he carries to show THE WAY.

Whatever happens then, and especially in India, we are not going to flout the claims of high caste in all the various grades, that carry with them certain guarantees of 'Good Faith' in the lead of the peoples' work; notwithstanding the fact that our education may not have taught us the whole business of the world's work and government, while we know that many false Prophets have stumped the Earth ever since the World began.

The four great castes of the Indian system supply all the needful wisdom, from altruism of the Priesthoods down to the humble experience of the Sudra working the soil. How can we apply it to Western municipal petty detail?

For instance, the cherished ideal—that committees and votes are infallible agencies in giving effect to the Divine Will, by protecting executive officials from falling over precipices into the utter beyond of gross darkness,—might be simplified, if, instead of the individuals composing the commit-

tees meddling with the executive duties, the committee as a whole, and if necessary by its vote decided the particular functions and powers of the officials and the responsibilities they were expected to undertake.

Most of the trouble caused in co-operative work arises from the confusion of responsibilities between the executive and the administrative branches, the first being the designers of the machinery, the latter supplying the power. Unless the cogs of these two elements gear into one another accurately there is bound to be friction and possible breakage with a change of work or speed.

No one should take office without knowing the aims and objects of the employers and the means placed at their disposal for doing the work. The first opportunity of a good executive officer arises when he has been in office a little while and tested the system, and if it is bad proposes some other, or resigns if none other is possible or approved. But, unfortunately, administrative officers or committees are not always efficient or acquainted with the difficulties of executive work. They are as apt to act, especially through the vote, in as gross a darkness of the consequences, as the unhappy executive offical struggling to find a match and light it for the benefit of the committees.

The vote of a Municipal Committee may be good for certain high policy; but as a means of disposing of the trifles of executive or financial detail, it wastes power and energy, without any possibility of tracing responsibility to individuals in connection with the 'work' to be done.

The scheme which would enable this responsibility to be exercised in a municipality would be, when the municipal area was divided in 'wards,' and the inhabitants thereof elected their own councillor, from such persons who would undertake to perambulate it and visit the ward residents, hearing their complaints and suggestions, taking them up to the council in due course for any action considered necessary or advisable.

The ward councillor might be assisted by four residents over any important matter, thus forming a panchayat to advise; in this way using an ancient Indian institution for modern purposes.

In many municipalities special departments useful to the public could be created. Thus labour and servants' registries could be opened, to assist in commercial development, and facilitate domestic work. But the Presidents or Secretaries of the municipalities could not take up the office work in connection with such details in addition to their own work. There is however no reason why the committees or chairman should not delegate necessary powers to one or other of the members of the committee, subject to general instructions and review of operations. The Municipal Act provides for such delegation.

If we could only vitalise a single municipality—big or little by some such experimental methods we might not only solve every problem of home-rule, but India might show the way to the work and government of Leagues of Nations, and that of the whole of humanity, in the New World about to be created!

OUR LONDON LETTER.

(From our own correspondent.)

The death of the Ameer has seized us with alarm, for if it be true that his brother Nasrullah Khan was at the bottom of the alleged murder and has seized the throne of Afghanistan there will be trouble. Habibullah was a friend of King and Empire and he endeared himself to all things that were British, and was "above board," as we say, in all his dealings. But whilst the responsible British authorities do not quite regard Nasrullah Khan as an entire stranger to that loyalty which he is expected to pay to those mighty traditions set and observed by his dead brother, yet they have had no real reason for believing that he is a profound friend of our Empire. There are some rulers who having had a gun given to them want to find a target, as the late Lord Kitchener used to say. Narsullah may prove friendly.

* * * *

The National Farmers Union are seeking protection from the Government who have been asked to define their agricultural policy. Mr. Goodman Preece has moved a resolution in favour of appointing a committee of the Union to interview the Prime Minister, and Mr. Preece is a power among the agriculturalists of the country. He says that the visible supply of wheat was sufficient for the world's needs for a year. It was 24,000,000 tons in hand, and as this wheat had to come on the market sooner or later the result would be that prices would come down with disastrous effects to producers unless the Government protected them. The members at their last meeting also adopted a mutual insurance scheme for their benefit, which was followed by a report from the land tenure committee containing proposals which the chairman of the committee, Mr. Powell Davies, described as the farmers' Magna Charta. These proposals are for instituting many reforms, one being for the establishment of a new authority for obtaining security of tenure, but this last suggestion is not likely to succeed and its adoption is doubtful. A new authority is hardly desirable, because if any reforms in this direction are needed and the Agricultural Holdings Act should fail to supply what is wanted, the Act can be amended by Parliament and made suitable for present-day requirements. The Union will no doubt in the

end see the argument of this proposition and they put it before members of Parliament who represent agriculture.

* * * *

There is every possibility of a new Forest Authority being shortly set up, and as the Aboricultural Society are backing up the proposed legislation it may come about more quickly than is generally anticipated. It is rumoured that Lord Lovat will be at the head of it.

* * * *

Lord Sinha, the first Indian peer, has taken his seat, and thus the link that has been missing so long from the chain which binds India's coral strands with ours has been found at last, and is complete. Indians in London met at an appointed gathering for the purpose of sending their congratulations to the new peer. The president of the meeting was Mr. K. P. Mehta. Something took place, however, which seemed to deprive it of unanimity, and a further meeting is called.

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The sale of ducal estates is not an everyday occurrence, hence the public astonishment at the announcement of the sale of the Duke of Sutherland's estate in Scotland. Loth and West Helmsdale with East Helmsdale and Naviedale, comprising some 115,000 acres, are situated on the east coast of Sutherland. Much of the wealth of Sutherlands has been brought to them by marriage with great heiresses of past generations, but it is doubtful if any of them brought as much wealth as that interesting girl, Miss Esme Smyth, will bring to her husband when she marries. This young lady is the only child and heiress of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Smyth, of Ashton Court, Somersetshire, and niece of Lord Boston, and is only eighteen. Her parents were formerly Irby but assumed the name of Smyth as son-in-law and daughter of that extremely wealthy lady, Lady Smyth, of Ashton Court.

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If the late Duke of Argyll had been alive to-day he would have grieved over the disaster which has fallen on one of his favourite seats in Scotland, the beautiful Dalchenna House. The best part of it has been consumed by fire, and completely gutted. The late Duke lived there while at Inverary and had several costly additions made to the mansion which eventually assumed the appearance of a castle and constituted a prominent landmark on the west shore of Loch Fyne. Since the war started and following the path of other lordly owners of good and stately homes the Campbells gave the house over to the Women's Land Army engaged in woodcutting.

* * * *

Politicians predict that property in land, houses and trade will be regulated on a new basis, and that the ownership of capital may yet bear more heavy burdens. There is, therefore, need for unity of action in a defensive policy. The Duke of Somerset is interested in the latter proposition and says there is "need for unity of action and a definite defensive policy on the part of all those whose interests will be affected by so-called democratic legislation". Certainly in the old pre-war days there was a total lack of organisation where the care and welfare of interests suggested "unity of action", but the prospects at present for the Duke's proposal coming into effective being may seem perhaps too belated to expect any great success arising out of it. It is quite possible, as His Grace suggests, that the very harrassing restrictions and the heavy burden of taxation and rates imposed upon the property-owning classes up to 1914 would have been impossible if those classes had acted together in defence of their rights and interests. However, acting on the old principle that it is never too late to mend, the Duke of Somerset intends to make every effort to bring about unified action to safeguard property and capital from a too severe form of democratisation.

* * * *

Kintail, one of the stately homes of Scotland, has been sold to Mr. Alexander Edward who has bought it from Sir Victor Mackenzie, Bart, whose ancestors originally secured the property from the Seaforth Mackenzies for the sum of £70,000. The purchaser was Sir Victor's grandfather, Sir James Mackenzie, who also bought Glenmuick, a palatial house with beautiful grounds, on Deeside, and which place is associated with the title. This Sir James was a great friend of King Edward and made his fortune, and the social fortunes of his family, as an indigo planter in India and an East India merchant in London. Glenmuick has always been a very costly place to keep up and Sir Victor has had little or no difficulty in letting it from time to time. The house is close to Balmoral and is famous for its stags, and the present tenant is Mr. J. M. Hanbury. But to come back to Kintail: the lands were bestowed on an ancestor by Alexander III in the thirteenth century for having killed a stag which chased the monarch and might have ended his days had not the gallant man wielded his claymore, and killed the animal.

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The Earl of Selborne, following the example of His Grace the Duke of Somerset, but in another direction wants 150,000 farmers to join him in his propaganda which he has conceived in furtherance of the work of the Agricultural Organisation Society, a most worthy body. Lord Selborne says that "we are approaching a turning-point in the history of British agriculture, and that in the years before us a part has to be played by the Government and a part by the farmer". So far so good.

It is only by combination for business purposes and on business lines, that farmers can meet the increased cost of wages and production.

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It is to be hoped that the brilliant example of the Duke of Atholl will be followed throughout the country. The Duke is nothing if not practical, but much as we expect of some people few would dream of a Duke converting his time into that of a matchmaker. Nevertheless, that is what the Duke of Atholl has been doing, and doing it well. He calls himself "one of those wicked individuals who are called great landowners," but his land is not in the capital; it is in Scotland where tenants and landowners live and grow old together. To all the soldiers home from the war, the sons of tenants of his, he has given a cottage with this injunction "I've got a better job for you than you had before. When you went off you were a lad, but now you're a grown man. I'm giving you a cottage, but you must find the 'gal' to fill it. Get married, and go into your house."

TOPICS FROM PERIODICALS.

WRITING FOR THE PRESS.

Have You the Gift?

Many an honest fellow, both male and female, from the age of ten upwards (I began at four) is tossed hither and thither between the desire to write for the Press, and anxiety regarding the proper way to begin. There are no doubts about ability. These come very much later—sometimes.

But it's all quite simple. You are convinced you are destined to be a literary star—good! Then just begin to twinkle. Get together by some means a supply of paper, and don't trouble about the size, as editors like variety. But if you prefer having it all the same, then would suggest blue foolscap. It has a certain official appearance about it, and has a friendly habit of nodding to the compositor. A highly-glazed paper indicates refined tastes.

The Equipment.

Of course you can use any sort of ink you prefer but most literary people have a fancy for seeing manuscripts in red ink—the colour is so restful and refreshing to the eye. With this you should have a broad J pen, and a blotting sheet out of last year's laundry book, and thus equipped you are well on your way to the making of your career.

Subject? Oh, that's a mere detail. Editors get so few contributions that they are thankful for anything. And don't trouble to punctuate or break up your article. The editor will have lots of time to do that for you—and besides, for what else is he paid? Some writers occasionally number their pages, but this is not needful. An appreciative reader will easily follow the thread of your story. I have known authors who wrote only on one side of the paper, but this always seemed to me sinful waste.

When your contribution is finished, fasten the sheets together at any corner—a good strong pin is the best, and often comes in handy when a button unexpectedly drops on the editorial floor. Some magazines suggest that "stamps for return" be sent with every manuscript but I wouldn't mind about that. To enclose a stamp, worse still, a stamped addressed envelope, looks as if you expected the MS. home again, and the editor, being a kindly man, will not wish to disappoint you.

You will not very easily get an envelope to take your foolscap straight out, but you don't need to bother. You can fold it to any size, or roll it if you prefer. Address it in good half text, to impress to local Post Office people, and carefully keep note of the date and hour of sending. You will, of course, watch for the Postman every day and if seven days pass without any answer, then call in person and insist on seeing the Editor

Seeing the Editor.

There may be little difficulty about this at first. The office porter will probably show some unwillingness to lead you to the sanctum, but you know this is only sheer laziness on his part. If he does condescend to take your card and then comes back saying the editor isn't in you have gained some needful information. The Editor is in but doesn't want to see you. You must, however, insist upon seeing him. Don't be discouraged if you fail the first day—all against and so on *adlib* till one say you find yourself being piloted towards. The Room and at last you are ushered into the presence of the Man-in the chair.

Why does he get that title? Because an Editor always sits in an arm-chair, even though it's only a three-legged stool. When the Editor turns his look on you, don't show any nervousness. Shake hands heartilly with him, saying "Pleased to meet you," and sit down on a vacant chair (if any). Remember he is as nervous over the interview as you are, and this will put him at his ease—besides giving you time to calm down and look round.

There are certain things in an Editor's den you must carefully observe. One is his desk,. It may be a ricketty table with a folded pad of somebody's

CROUP.

This disease is so dangerous and so rapid in its development that every mother of young children should be prepared for it. It is very risky to wait until the attack of croup appears and then send for medicine and let the child suffer until it can be obtained. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is prompt and effectual and has never been known to fail in any case. Always have a bottle in the home. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

manuscripts steadying one of its legs, but it is still, by courtesy, a desk; and the top is the important part for you to note. If it is well-kept, the papers and manuscripts lying in neat order, and the inkstand manus-dusted, than I would say, be very cautious in your dealings. No editor of any standing has a desk-top like that. The true literary man gathers inspiration from the multiplicity of confusion, so to speak.

But even the regulation muddled desk-top is second in importance to the paste-pot. Any man claiming to be an editor who uses gum and a descent brush ought to be regarded with suspicion. He's either a traitor to the age-old principles of the profession, or else he's a novice. The correct thing is a sensibly wide jar, well crusted outside and inside with old paste, and gradually lessening space in the middle where the new stuft is slipped in. The brush—it may be a stick with a rag round the end of it—will have a much thicker handle than it originally possessed.

CHEERFUL CONVERSATION,

Having noted these things, enter into cheerful conversation with the editor about the weather, drifting gradually on to your early childhood, the number of your relations, where you buy your winter tweeds, etc. All these things interest him, and help him to understand your character. Then mention the fact of literature running in your family, as your grandfather once wrote a letter to the press about the annual appearance of the sea-serpent. This will impress him greatly (the editor, not the serpent).

It is possible that at this juncture a hurried call may come for the editor from the reportersroom; but hasten to assure him not to mind you—can easily wait. In the interval you can have a stroll round among the compositors, and ask them questions about their work. They like that. You will also have time to look at their hair. Compositors and printers always have short hair, standing straight up. None other is genuine.

You will see a mysterious-looking thing hanging behind a door—long, and stiff, and dark in colour. *Don't* show your ignorance by asking what it is. That is the printers' towel. It is a sacred heirloom. Men who have grown grey in the profession remember it when they were happy, innocent little p. d's.

A story used to be related with bated breath, about the printer's towel (not this one, of course) being sent by mistake to the laundry, where it broke the rollers, and the laundry proprietors claimed damages, saying they were not in the habit of washing corrugated iron.

If the editor has not returned by this time, which is quite probable, leave a kindly-worded message for him, and call again.

D. B., in *Weekly Scotsman.*

SELECTION.

HISTORY OF SHIVAJI, 1671—74.

I

The second sack of Surat and the Maratha ravages in Baglana roused Aurangzib to a sense of the gravity of the situation in the Deccan. As early as 28th November, 1670, he had issued orders transferring Mahabat Khan from Afghanistan to the supreme command in the Deccan. The events of December only deepened the Emperor's anxiety. On 9th January 1671, he sent orders to Bahadur Khan to leave his province of Gujrat and command one of the imperial army corps in the Deccan, Dilir Khan being ordered to accompany him. The Emperor also repeatedly talked of going to the Deccan and conducting the war against Shivaji in person, but the idea was ultimately dropped. Daud Khan was instructed to attack Shivaji wherever he was reported. Amar Singh Chandawat and many other Rajput officers with their clansmen were posted to the Deccan. Reinforcements, money and provisions were poured into Baglana in Jan. 1671.

Mahabat Khan left Burhanpur on 3rd January 1671 with Jaswant Singh, reached Aurangabad on the 10th, paid his respects to the Viceroy, Prince Muazzam, and set out to join the army near Chandor. Daud Khan had been appointed his chief lieutenant and commander of his Vanguard; but he despised this office as below his rank, and begged the Emperor to recall him.

We shall now trace the history of the war in the Chandor range. Late in December 1670 Shivaji's men had laid siege to Dhodap, and Daud Khan had started on the 28th of that month to relieve the fort. But the qiladar, Muhammad Zaman, successfully repelled the attack without his aid. Daud Khan had next advanced to the relief of Salhir, but had been too late to save it, as we have already seen. In January 1671, he held a fortified base near the *Kanchana* pass from which he sallied forth in every direction in which the Marathas were heard of as roving. From the Emperor's letters it appears that Daud Khan was under a general order to right everything that might go wrong in Baglana! Once after a night march he fell on a body of the enemy near Hatgarh and slew 700 of them.

Late in January 1671, Mahabat Khan joined Daud Khan near Chandor and the two laid siege to Ahivant, which Shiva had recently taken. After a month had been wasted in a fruitless exchange of fire, the fort was entered from the trenches of Daud Khan and the garrison capitulated to him. Mahabat Khan became furiously angry at losing the credit of this success. He had been previously treating Daud Khan, a 5-*hazari*, with discourtesy, and now the relations between them became strained to the utmost. Leaving a garrison to

hold Ahivant, Mahabat passed three months at Nasik and then went to Parnir (20 miles west of Ahmadnagar) to pass the rainy season (June to September) there, while Daud Khan was recalled to Court (about June).

There was excessive rainfall that year and many men and cattle perished of pestilence in the camp at Parnir. But while his troops were dying, Mahabat Khan attended daily entertainments in the houses of the nobles by turn. There were 400 dancing girls of Afghanistan and the Punjab in his camp, and they were patronised by the officers.

II

The Emperor was dissatisfied with Mahabat Khan for the poor result of his campaign in the first quarter of 1671 and his long spell of inactivity afterwards, and suspected him of having formed a secret understanding with Shivaji. So, he sent Bahadur Khan and Dilir Khan to the Deccan next winter. They marched from Gujrat into Baglana, laid siege to Salhir (now in Maratha hands), and leaving Ikhlas Khan Miana, Rao Amar Singh Chandawat and some other officers to continue the siege, proceeded towards Ahmadnagar.

From the environs of Ahmadnagar, Bahadur Khan advanced to Supa (in the Puna district), while Dilir Khan with a flying column recovered Puna, massacring all the inhabitants above the age of 9 years, (end of December 1671). Early in January 1672, Shivaji was at Mahad, draining his forts of men to raise a vast army for expelling the invaders from the home of his childhood. But the pressure on Puna was immediately afterwards removed and Bahadur Khan was recalled from this region by a severe disaster to Mughal arms in Baglana. There, the division left to besiege Salhir was attacked by Shiva himself with a large force. After an obstinate battle, Ikhlas Khan and Muhakam Singh (the son of Rao Amar Singh Chandawat) were wounded and captured, with 30 of their principal officers, while Rao Amar Singh and many other commanders as well as several thousand common soldiers were slain, and the entire seige camp was taken by the enemy. Shortly afterwards Shivaji captured Mulhir, and then putting fresh men, munitions and provisions in the two forts, he hurried back to Konkan unmolested. This took place in the second half of January 1672. Shivaji's prestige and confidence in his own power were immensely increased by these successes. Surat was now in constant terror of him, as he entirely dominated Baglana.

From the English records we learn that Shiva now "forced the two generals (viz., Bahadur and Dilir), who with their armies had entered into his country, retreat with shame and loss." But the Persian accounts are silent about it. We can, however, be sure that the Satnami rising of March and the rebellion of the Khaibar Afghans in April next, made it impossible for the Emperor to attempt the recovery of his prestige in the Deccan, and Shiva was therefore left the master of the situation throughout the year 1672.

Bahadur Khan returned with failure from Baglana, encamped for some time on the bank of the Bhima, and then went back to Ahmadangar to canton for the rains. About May 1672 Mahabat left the Deccan for Hindustan, and a month later Prince Muazzam did the same. Bahadur Khan was appointed commander-in-chief and acting viceroy of the Deccan, in the place of these two, becoming substantial *Subahdar* in January 1673 and holding that office till August 1677.

III

So greatly was the spirit of the Marathas roused by their victory over Ikhlas Khan, capture of Mulhir, and the expulsion of Bahadur and Dilir from Puna that their activity continued even during the hot weather and the rainy season of this year. About 5th June, a large Maratha army under Moro Trimbak Pingle captured Jawhar from its Koli Rajah, and seized there treasure amounting to 17 lakhs of Rupees. The place was only 110 miles from Surat, and adjoined the Nasik district, from which it was separated by the Western Ghats. Advancing further north, he threatened the other Koli State of Ramnagar which is only sixty miles south of Surat. The Rajah fled with his family (about 19th June 1672) to Chikli, six miles S. E. of Gandavi. Even Gandavi was deserted by the people in fear of the coming of the Marathas. But the invaders speedily retreated from Ramnagar on hearing that Dilir Khan was assembling his forces for a campaign, Heavy rain stopped the activity of the Marathas for a few days. But soon afterwards Moro Pant, with his army raised to 15,000 men, returned to the attack, and took Ramnagar in the first week of July.

The annexation of Jawhar and Ramnagar gave the Marathas a short, safe and easy route from Kalian up Northern Konkan to Surat, and laid that port helplessly open to invasion from the south. The city became subject to chronic alarm, whenever any Marathas were heard of even 60 miles off, at Ramnagar.

From the neighbourhood of Ramnagar Moro Trimbak Pingle sent three successive letters to the governor and leading traders of Surat demanding four lakhs of Rupees as black-mail, and threatening a visit to the city in the case of their refusal. The third of these epistles was very peremptory in tone; Shivaji wrote, "I demand for the third time, which I declare shall be the last, the *chauth* or quarter part of government. As your Emperor has forced me to keep an army for the defence of my people and country, that army must be paid by his subjects. If you do not send me the money speedily, then make ready a large house for me, for I shall go and sit down

there and receive the revenue and custom duties, as there is none now to stop my passage."

At the first news of the arrival of the Maratha army in Ramnagar, the governor of Surat summoned all the leading Hindu and Muhammadan merchants and proposed that they should subscribe Rs. 15,000 for engaging 500 horse and 3,000 foot to defend the town for two months. Officers were immediately sent to make a list of all the Hindu houses in the town for assessing this contribution. But no soldiers were enlisted, and the governor pocketed whatever money was actually raised for the defence.

On the receipt of the third letter from Shivaji, the helpless citizens were seized with a panic. The rich went to the governor that very night and wanted permission to remove their families to Broach and other towns for safety. He kept them waiting till after midnight, gave them the permission, but retracted it next morning, when he held a second conference with the townsmen, asking them to raise the black-mail demanded,—the merchants paying one lakh and the *desais* raising two lakhs from the cultivators of the villages around. After a discussion lasting a day and a night, in which he reduced his demand to Rs. 60,000, the people finally refused to pay anything, as they knew too well that he would appropriate the money instead of buying the enemy off with it. Thereafter, every time that there was an alarm of the approach of Shivaji's troops, the citizens of Surat hastened to flee from the town, but the governor shut the gates to keep them in!

IV

From their base in the Koli country of Jawhar and Ramnagar, a Maratha force under Moro Trimbak easily crossed the Ghats into the Nasik district, in the middle of July 1672, plundered and occupied it. Jadun Rao Deccani, a great-grandson of Lukhji Jadav (the meternal grand father of Shivaji) with 4000 men, was the Mughal thanhdar of Nasik-Trimbak. He was defented and captured after losing many of his troops in battle. Siddi Halal, the thanahdar of vani-Dindori (or North Nasik), was also defeated and his charge looted by the Marathas. For this failure, both officers were sharply reprimanded by Bahadur Khan, and in anger they deserted to the Marathas, with two other officers and all the men of their "four great regiments of horse" (October). Other desertions were apprehended, and Dilir Khan was left in great danger with a weakened army to defend the province of Gujrat against the exultant enemy.

JADUNATH SARKAR. in the *Modern Review*.

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